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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Alan Chervitz et al.  
Serial No.: 09/981,927  
Filing Date: 10/17/2001  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
ORTHOPEDIC FIXATION  
Group Art Unit: 3732  
Examiner: Unknown  
Attorney's Docket No.: MED-8 CIP

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PETITION FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND

Applicant hereby petitions for a four (4) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Official Action mailed November 29, 2001 with respect to the above-identified patent application, thereby extending the time for response from January 29, 2002 to May 29, 2002.

A check in the amount of \$720.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of the petition fee. This petition fee has been calculated on the basis of Small Entity status.

In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed for the convenience of the Office.

Thank you.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON:

MAY 29, 2002

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

JAMES A. SHERIDAN

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

James A. Sheridan 5/29/02

(SIGNATURE)

MAY 29, 2002

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

PS/MED8CIP.EXT

Respectfully submitted,

*James A. Sheridan 5/29/02*

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